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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Buildup of the Chinese Road Net

REPORT NO.

25X1

RESPONSIVE TO	
1	2
CD NO.	
OO/C NO.	
ORR NO.	
DAS NO.	
OCI NO.	

DATE DISTR. 16 November 1953

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The current plans call for the construction of 1,400 km of roads in 1953 and 2,300 km in 1954.
2. The traffic center is to be Lan-Chou. From this point main lines will lead to the four northwest provinces that are grouped around Kansu, to Szechuwan in the southwest, to autonomous Inner Mongolia and to Shansi.
3. The most important strategic road will be the 3,300 km highway from Sianfu in Shensi Province through Kansu and Sinkiang to the Russian border.
4. Another important new highway is that from Chinghai to Tibet, 1,130 km long. It begins in Siningfu and runs southward.
5. The old Burma Road is to be improved in the greatest haste, with the approval of Rangoon.
6. The railroad line from Tientsin to Nanking and the parallel road is to be secured against floods by large dams on the Taching and Tzeya Rivers.
7. The connection from Lhasa to India is on paper only.

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